(d) what are the facts and details of documents leaked/transferred;

(e) what is the number of espionage cases in the Defence and Nuclear installations which were detected during each of the last five years and what are the details of each of such case;

(f) what action Government have taken against the persons found involved/guilty; and

(g) what steps have been taken for the safety and security of secret documents relating to ISRO and other Defence and Nuclear installations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE : (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) During investigations of a case in Thiruvananthapuram under Foreigners Orders 1948 read with Foreigners Act 1946 against a foreign national for overstaying in India, the Police authorities discovered evidence indicating some links between the said foreign national and a Scientist of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, one of the Centres of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It was suspected that certain classified documents of ISRO had been leaked out to the foreigner. Therefore, a case was registered under Section 3 & 4 of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 read with Section 34 of Indian Penal Code (IPC). Following the registration of this case, six persons including 2 Scientists of ISRO 2 foreigners and 2 businessmen were arrested. The matter has since been entrusted by Government of India to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on the request of Government of Kerala and cases have been registered by the CBI under RC-10(S)/94-SIU(V)/SIC-II New Delhi under Section 7 of Foreigners Orders 1948 read with Section 14 of Foreigners Act 1946 and RC 11 (S)/94-SIU-V/SIC. II under Sections 3, 4 & 5 of Official Secrets Act 1923 read with Section 34 of IPC. The matter is under investigation.

The names of the accused are Ms. Fauzia Hassan and Ms. Mariyam Rasheeda, foreign nationals, Shri D. Sasikumaran and Shri S. Nambinarayanan, ISRO Scientists; Shri K. Chandrasekharan and Shri S. K. Sharma both businessmen.

(e) The information is being collected.

(f) The case is under investigation. The two Scientists of ISRO have been placed under deemed suspension. All the accused are in custody.

(g) Security instructions issued by Government are adopted for the safety and security of secret documents in ISRO and Defence and Nuclear installations. Review of the existing mechanisms for security in the different Centres and Units of Department of Space/ISRO has been initiated to strengthen the security measures.

Solar Energy

*231. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN :
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have been taken to encourage "Solar Power" in the States, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any incentive programmes have been drawn to popularise the "Solar Energy System"; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider the starting of schemes in States to popularise the system as such ?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government is implementing socially oriented and market oriented schemes to encourage the use of stand alone (non grid-interactive) solar photovoltaic (SPV) devices/systems for solar power generation in the country, including in the State of Tamil Nadu. It has also taken up a few grid-interactive SPV power plant demonstration projects and also proposes to take up a 35 MW Solar Thermal power plant demonstration project near Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) A central subsidy of 50% of the ex-works costs of SPV systems for lighting and village level small power plants is being provided to special category states/UTs, Islands, desert areas, hilly regions and certain specific categories of beneficiaries all over the country, under the socially oriented scheme. The subsidy for solar lanterns is fixed at Rs. 2000/- each. A package of subsidy and soft-loan is being made available for the purchase of SPV water pumpingsystems.

Soft loan is being made available to the beneficiaries for purchase of Solar Photo voltaic devices/systems through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Ltd. under the Market Oriented Scheme. A World Bank asissted project of US $ 55 million value for SPV market development in the country is also being implemented through IREDA.

In addition to the above schemes for the users, fiscal and financial incentives such as concessional custom duties on solar cells photovoltaic modules and systems; lower or no excise duty, 100% depreciation and soft loan facilities are available to the manufacturers of SPV devices and systems.

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*232. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the reason for the decision to discontinue the extension of Rainfed Farming Project by ODA through FP & ARD;

(b) whether in the Aide-memoire prepared by ODA Annual Monitoring Mission in November, 1992, ODA had agreed to continue the project with FP & ARD in an expanded form at least upto 1997, if an undertaking is given by Government that HFC will not be closed down before March, 94; if so, when was such undertaking given by the Ministry to ODA;

(c) whether the ODA also voice its concern about the voluntary retirements in FP & ARD which would make impossible to run the projects efficiently, if so, what action was taken by the HFC Management to allay the apprehension of the ODA Monitoring Mission; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in the same report it was maintained that the project should continue upto March '97 but ODA was not agreeable to approve funding upto 1997 because of the Management changes which occurred during 1991-92 contrary to the earlier agreements, if so, who were responsible for these changes and what steps were taken by Government/management to assure ODA about the unchanged project set-up during the tenure of the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) Overseas Development Administration (ODA), an agency of Government of United Kingdom, was quite emphatic that in view of the uncertainty arising out of the declaration of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) as a sick company, the implementation of the Rainfed Farming Project, which was hitherto being implemented by FP & ARD of HFC, should be entrusted to KRIBHCO.

(b) No, Sir. The factual position is that the aide memoire of Monitoring Mission (November, 1992) stated that the team would recommend to ODA that the project should continue with HFC until at least March, 1994 and that ODA should only approve project expansion in the period 1994/7 if, *inter alia*, an undertaking could be given by the Government of India to ODA by 31st March, 1993 that HFC would not be closed down before March, 1997.

Since HFC had been referred to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body, Government was not in a position to give an undertaking on the above lines. However, ODA was assured through British High Commission in November, 1993 that the staff deployed in Rainfed Farming Project would continue till the life of the project even if HFC in its present form underwent a change before 1997. It was further assured that the posts sanctioned for the project and additional posts sanctioned in case of expansion of the project in future, shall continue till the life of ODA funded project, may be in some other organizational form, depending upon the orders to be passed by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction.